

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-8. (canceled)

1 9. (new) A metal extrusion press comprising:

2 a pair of fixed crossheads spaced along a press axis from
3 each other;

4 a plurality of elongated upper and lower members
5 extending axially between and rigidly connected to the crossheads,
6 each member including a rod axially tensioned between the
7 crossheads and a beam axially compressed between the crossheads;

8 a movable crosshead between the fixed crossheads;

9 a container between the movable crosshead and one of the
10 fixed crossheads;

11 respective crosshead and container guide units supporting
12 the movable crosshead and container on the members and engaging
13 around the members; and

14 rollers engaged between each of the guide units and the
15 members.

1 10. (new) The extrusion press defined in claim 9
2 wherein the rollers and guide units are provided only on the lower
3 members.

1 11. (new) The extrusion press defined in claim 10
2 wherein there are two such lower members, two such crosshead guide
3 units, and four such container guide units.

1 12. (new) The extrusion press defined in claim 9 wherein
2 each unit includes
3 upper and lower horizontally relatively shiftable support
4 elements, the upper elements of the crosshead and container units
5 being carried on the movable crosshead and the container, the lower
6 elements bearing via the respective rollers on the respective
7 members.

1 13. (new) A metal extrusion press comprising:
2 a pair of fixed crossheads spaced along a press axis from
3 each other;
4 a plurality of elongated upper and lower members
5 extending axially between and rigidly connected to the crossheads,
6 each member including a rod axially tensioned between the
7 crossheads and a beam axially compressed between the crossheads;
8 a movable crosshead between the fixed crossheads;
9 a container between the movable crosshead and one of the
10 fixed crossheads;
11 respective upper support elements horizontally sliceable
12 on the crosshead and container units and each formed with a
13 downwardly concave ball seat;
14 respective lower support elements underneath the upper
15 support elements and each having an upwardly convex ball surface
16 fitted in the respective seat, whereby each lower support element
17 with the respective upper element supports the crosshead and
18 container on the members; and
19 rollers engaged between each of the lower support
20 elements and the members.

1 14. (new) The extrusion press defined in claim 13,
2 further comprising
3 spacers between the upper elements of the crosshead and
4 container units and the movable crosshead and container.

1 15. (new) The extrusion press defined in claim 13,
2 further comprising
3 respective spring means braced horizontally between the
4 movable crosshead and the container for horizontally urging the
5 crosshead and container units into predetermined positions relative
6 to the movable crosshead and container.

1 16. (new) The extrusion press defined in claim 15
2 wherein the spring means are prestressed.